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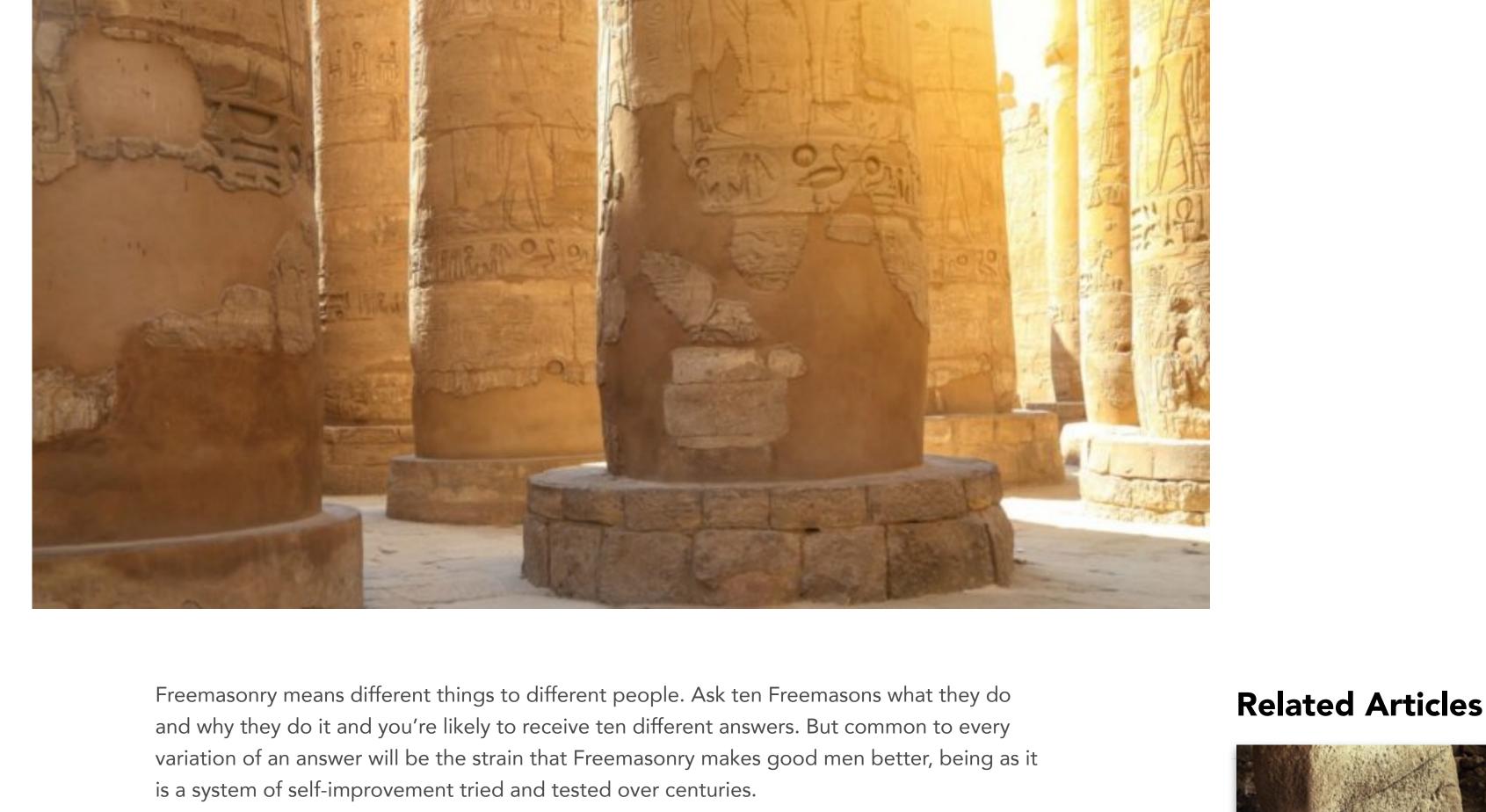
Ancient Egyptian Mystery Schools and

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9 min read By Michael Schiavello | November 22, 2019

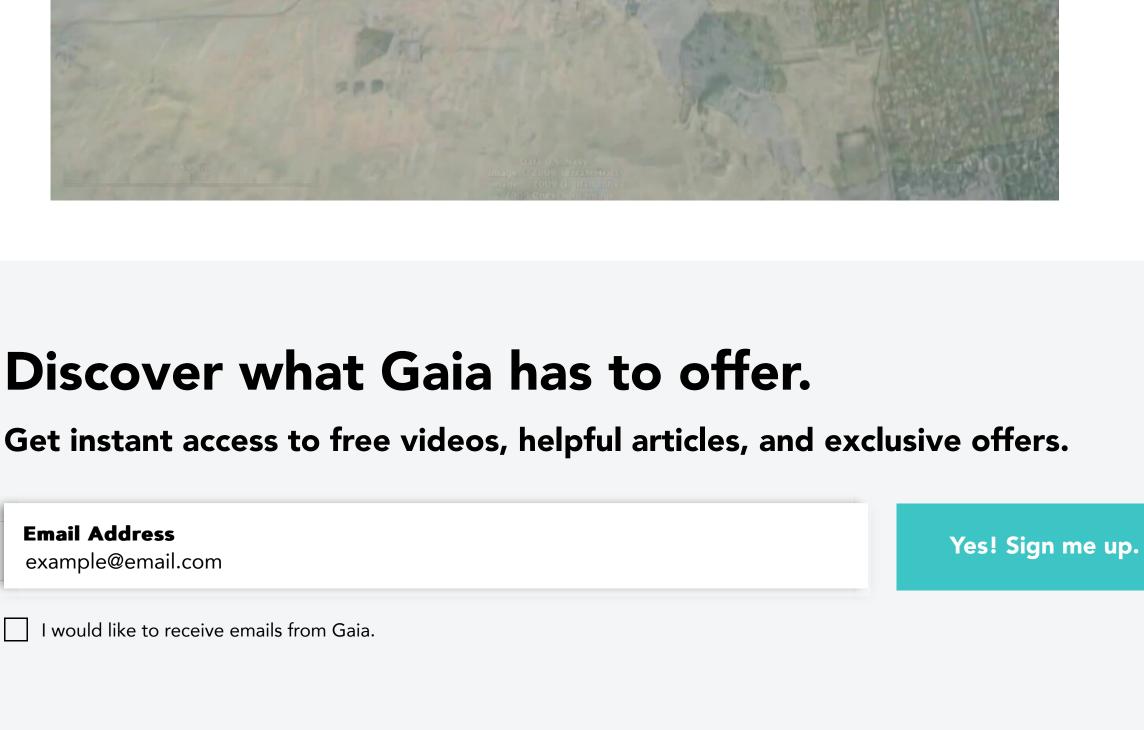
Seeking Truth, Ancient Origins, Ancient Civilizations Decoded

Freemasonry



The uneducated with no interest in mystical traditions and the esoteric may regard Ancient Egypt as little more than a place of pagan worship, strange hieroglyphics, and monuments erected by thousands of Hebrew slaves. But those more learned, especially those having undertaken the initiative rituals of Freemasonry, will see a link between the Egyptian metaphysical tradition and modern mystery schools, of which Freemasonry is one.

Why Ancient Egypt?



Ancient Egyptian history author, Alphonse Mariette, wrote of the Egyptian mystery schools,

"To the initiated of the sanctuary, no doubt, was reserved the knowledge of the god in the

"

It is Freemasonry's aim to educate an initiate on the god concealed in the

The Christian Priest, Origen, said that "The Egyptian philosophers have sublime notions with

regard to the Divine nature, which they kept secret, and never discover to the people but

under a veil of fables and allegories." Once again, we see the similarities to the teaching

methods of Freemasonry which is performed by way of symbolism and allegory and never

unfathomable depths of his own essence, represented by the letter G in

the middle of the square and compasses, symbolizing the divine spark

abstract, the god concealed in the unfathomable depths of his own essence. But for the less refined adoration of the people were presented the endless images of deities sculptured on the walls of temples." The very same could be said of Freemasonry.

within, the god essence of oneself.

revealed to the uninitiated (known as cowans).

Initiation Rituals

can give man the likeness of the Divine."

Masonic symbols and initiation procedures.

Invitation into the Mysteries

the candidate through a journey steeped in history, symbolism, and allegory to teach him lessons of how to raise his divine spark, realize his relationship to a higher power (God, Grand Architect, Supreme Being, etc) and live a life of moral rectitude. Occult scholar, Lewis Spence (1874 – 1955) tells us of the same goal of initiation in Ancient Egypt: "The purpose of initiation is a conventional attempt to realize man's place in the universe and

for the first time in an orderly and philosophical manner ... Have we no lessons to learn from

Egypt? Aye, the greatest in the world, the knowledge of that divine introspection which alone

Masonic author, Albert Mackey, believed in a relationship between modern Freemasonry and

Ancient Egypt. Wrote Mackey: "The identity of design and method in the two systems, as

illustrated by the division—into steps, classes, or degrees—to which both were subjected,

Masonic teaching centers on its initiation rituals. Each of Freemasonry's three degrees takes

The Widow's Son Another link between modern Freemasonry and Egypt is the Isis – Osiris story that formed the crux of the Ancient Egyptian belief system. In the Egyptian rites, Horus is the savior-avenger, son of Isis, magically conceived through

wearing a noosed rope around their necks. In the religious ceremonies of the Brahmins,

rooted in antiquity. Vases from ancient Mexico have been unearthed that show candidates

The cable-tow is purely Masonic in meaning and use, but as with many Masonic symbols, it is

The White Apron

When a candidate becomes a Freemason, he is presented with a white apron consisting of a square overlaid with a triangle. The apex of the triangular flap represents the divine spark we must endeavor to recover. It is the part of us made in the image of our Creator, and there's no better geometric figure to symbolize this than the triangle. After all, geometrically a triangle is the very first shape that can be made by drawing straight lines. This is why the

In Judaism, the triangle represents the past, present, and future. To the Chinese: heaven,

The Masonic symbol of the Point Within a Circle inside two parallel, perpendicular lines is

steeped in antiquity. Early Egyptian monuments have been discovered inscribed with the

a circle was used to symbolize God as, like a circle, God has no beginning and no end.

symbol of God — represented by the Alpha and Omega — in the center of a circle bordered

by two perpendiculars, parallel serpents. In many ancient belief systems and mystery schools,

number 3 was venerated by the ancients and still is to this day.

The Triangle of Divine Spark

The Point Within a Circle

The Honeycomb One of the emblems of the third degree of Freemasonry is the honeycomb. Many ancient civilizations revered bees and honey. The Ancient Egyptians developed methods of advanced apiculture as far back as 3000 BCE. Menes, the first King of Egypt, who ruled somewhere between 5000 BCE to 4000 BCE, was called 'The Beekeeper,' a title bestowed on all subsequent Pharaohs.

represented with the right hand placed near the heart, and the left down by his side, covered with a skin before, full of eyes and ears, to signify, that of many things to be seen and heard, few are to be published." Apuleius, who was an initiate in the Mysteries of Isis, said: " "By no peril will I ever be compelled to disclose to the uninitiated the things that I have had entrusted to me on condition of silence." The best-known champion of silence and secrecy was Pythagoras, who ventured to Egypt to

Freemasonry and the origin of each of its symbols. The Egyptian Mystery Schools played a

Michael Schiavello is a best-selling author, award-winning feature writer and an

part in its development, as did those of the Greeks, Romans, Druids, Essenes, Cathars,

Rosicrucians, Alchemists, and the guilds of the Medieval Stone Masons.

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More In Ancient Origins

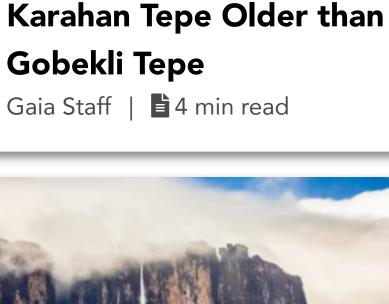
Human 'Hobbit' Ancestor

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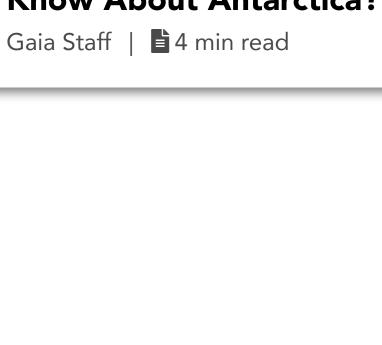


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in the divine scheme of things, and for this, I believe, the Egyptian Mystery System achieved

viz., lustration (purification, or preparation), initiation, and perfection."

ritual after the brutal murder of her husband/brother Osiris. We can apply this myth to modern Freemasonry's allegory of the murder of Hiram Abiff, the chief architect of Solomon's Temple. Isis, made a widow by Osiris' murder (Freemason's are called Widow's Sons), gives birth through initiation ritual to Horus, the redeemer, raised solely that me may avenge the

Other similarities between Freemasonry and the Egyptian Mystery Schools are seen in certain

When he first enters a lodge room for initiation, the candidate for Freemasonry is blindfolded

and has a rope tied around his neck by which he is led in a circuit of the room. This rope is

proceeding through a ceremony of initiation in which they are being taught a sign while Greeks, and Druids, halters were worn around an initiate's neck. In the mystery schools of Ancient Egypt, a chain was placed around a candidate's neck as part of his preparation for initiation. As in Freemasonry, the Egyptian candidate was also blindfolded to represent a state of darkness before emerging into the light of knowledge when the blindfold was

earthly, material existence (square) into a heavenly, spiritual existence of higher learning

Depictions of bees and honey are prevalent on many Egyptian carvings including the Flamic

pictures of bees. Royal tombs in Egypt also show the importance of beekeeping and honey,

including the enormous sarcophagus of Rameses II which includes numerous pictures of

honeybees. Foodstuffs created by bees, such as pots of honey, honeycombs, and honey

cakes, were placed by the sarcophagi as food for the gods. Even Alexander the Great

requested that his body be wrapped in honey upon his death.

Keeping Hush, Hush

Harpocrates, to whom they paid peculiar honor and veneration, who was

"

international television sports broadcaster. Known as 'The Voice' he has commentated sports events in more than 20 countries, including the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. He is the host of 'The Voice Versus' interview show on

About the Author

New discoveries have been made at the ancient site of Karahan Tepe — this sister site of Göbekli Tepe

Archeologists working at the ancient site of Karahan Tepe, about 30 miles east of its sister site Göbekli

Tepe, have found stunning carved heads, standing stones, buttresses, and what appear to be snakes

prominently carved into the earth. The dig is being led by the University of Instanbul and in their

may have just revealed its hidden origins and proved an ancient civilization is even older than once

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destruction of wisdom (by Set aka chaos) and restore peace, harmony and the just god, in whom there is no death (the Divine Spark within). The Similarity in Symbols and Teaching

removed.

called a cable tow.

The Cable Tow

earth, and water. To the Hindus: creation, preservation, and renewal. The three points of the triangle also represent the conscious mind, the subconscious mind, and the collective unconscious. The Ancient Egyptian ceremony of initiation led the candidate to a door shaped exactly as a Masonic apron: a triangle over a square, symbolizing his progression from an (triangle).

and Pamphilic obelisks, the obelisk of Luxor, the pillars of the Temple of Karnak and on statues of Rameses II. Even the Rosetta Stone, which dates to 196 BCE, was etched with

Secrecy and silence play a big part in Masonic teaching but are not exclusive to the organization. Wellins Calcott, author of A Candid Disquisition of the Principles and Practices of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons (quite possibly the longest book title ever), wrote of the ancient veneration of secrecy and silence: "We shall find that the old Egyptians had so great a regard for silence and secrecy in the mysteries of their religion, that they set up the god

study the Mysteries, which he later brought back to Greece. To become a member of the Pythagorean School, an initiate took an oath of silence for two to five years. Novices were called 'Listeners' and were not permitted to partake in class discussions, but only to listen so the teaching could be absorbed before entering into an intellectual debate on what they learned. The connections between Ancient Egypt and modern Freemasonry are many, and only a few are presented in this article. To say that Freemasonry was born from the Egyptian Mystery Schools and their initiation rituals is true in part. Nobody can claim to know the full history of

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official report point out that, not only are these and other neolithic structures the beginning of architecture but also held a symbolic purpose. Writing, "[T]hey also bear traces of the conceptual **Read Article** >

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